

HINT OF POISON GIVEN TO CASTRO

Venezuela President Reported
to Be Seriously Ill.

MYSTERY IN THE INCIDENT

HIS "REMOVAL" MIGHT WAIVE
ARBITRATION PLAN.

President Roosevelt's Answer to the
Powers on Arbitration Suggestion
Has Been Forwarded to
London and Berlin.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—President Castro, according to a dispatch from Caracas to a morning paper, has been seized by a sudden and mysterious illness. His secretary will divulge no particulars and the friends of the President are much agitated. The news was given out at the Yellow House as a bare announcement. The rumor of this dispatch naturally suggests an attempt on the life of the Venezuelan leader by poison. The "removal" of Castro might not change the situation. His successor, whoever he might be, would have no better means of meeting the claims of the powers than Castro has. Of course, it is possible that a new head of the government might admit the correctness of the claims and through his own efforts provide a way of arbitration.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT REPLIES TO POWERS.

Special to the Post-Dispatch.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—President Roosevelt's response to the identical communications suggesting that the President undertake the adjustment of the present difficulties have been forwarded to London and Berlin. It was made plain by Mr. Hay in this communication that the President did not wish to act, although it was shown with equal plainness that he would do so if the powers interested were insistent, and for this reason the administration officials are inclined to hope that England, Germany and Italy, as a mark of consideration for the United States and a desire to do what will prove most acceptable to the President, will ultimately acquiesce in a reference of the whole subject matter of the dispute to the permanent international court.

This request or suggestion that the President act as arbitrator has caused much earnest discussion among senators and representatives who have been watching the trend of events in South America, and especially the recent developments in Venezuela with close attention. It meets with favor from some of the influential men in Congress, who believe that for the President of the United States to act as arbitrator in the Venezuelan matter would create a moral obligation on the part of the government to see to it that Venezuela accepted his decision and faithfully discharged whatever obligation that decision would place upon her.

This moral obligation would, in the opinion of some statesmen of advanced thought, mean an enlargement of the Monroe doctrine to the extent of making the United States not only the guardian of territory, but the guarantor of the good faith of South and Central American countries. It is suggested that it would inevitably lead to the exercise of a police power that would make for better government on the South American continent.

The idea of a police power is not repulsive to those who believe that its exercise will be absolutely necessary when the isthmian canal has been completed. The control of the interests of the eastern entrance to that canal has engaged the most earnest thought of the President, his cabinet and leaders in Congress since the waterway was authorized to be constructed.

A step in that direction will be taken when the United States acquires from Venezuela the island Margarita, which now seems probable. With that island in the possession of the United States as a naval base, and Porto Rico, a part of this country, where another important naval base may be established, and with the naval stations to be acquired on the coast of Cuba, the United States would have absolute control of the eastern entrance to the Caribbean and the isthmian canal. In case of war her navy would control every league of the eastern limit of the Caribbean, and not even a torpedo-boat could pass through without detection.

It is suggested that, should the President act as arbitrator in this case, Venezuela would readily part with the island of Margarita for a nominal sum on account of the friendly attitude of the United States in her present trouble. Its acquisition would end forever the hopes of Germany to secure a naval station on that coast. This of itself is regarded by some as a fair reward for the trouble and risk this government has taken in trying to bring about a peaceable settlement of affairs between Venezuela and her foreign antagonists.

THE STEPS TOWARD ARBITRATION PLAN.

Special to the Post-Dispatch.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—If an agreement is reached on arbitration the procedure would be for Mr. Bowen, representing Venezuela as plenipotentiary, to sign with the representatives of the allies a protocol stating that the case is to be submitted to arbitration; that Venezuela admits the right of diplomatic intervention in behalf of a claimant, a principle she has always resisted; and that the details of the arbitration shall be arranged in a formal treaty, which she pledges herself to sign.

The treaty will provide in the greatest detail for the security of foreign interests against exorbitant interference, and will insure the settlement of any dispute by peaceful means. It is not improbable that certain messages will be sent and received daily from the Venezuelan government, which will be the nature of further steps looking toward arbitration of the dispute.

KIPLING SHIES AT THE "MADE IN GERMANY" LABEL



After the manner of Rudyard Kipling's latest poem, "The Rovers" (published in the Post-Dispatch to-day), setting forth the English dissatisfaction with the German alliance in the Venezuelan affair. Last night I swore my shopping was done. Or all the dolls of all mankind That seek the eye to please, Was there no other eye could find That ye offer dolls like these?

WHISPERS IN AIR CROSS THE OCEAN

BY WIRELESS TELEGRAPH
Marconi Stations in England
and Nova Scotia in
Communication.

THEY ARE 2200 MILES APART
TELEGRAMS FOR KINGS OF ITALY
AND ENGLAND.

Inventor Says Line, Which Is to Be
Perfected Meanwhile, Will Open
for Commercial Business in
Four Months.

MARCONI INFORMS WORLD AND POST-DISPATCH.

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 22.—This message was received at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon from Mr. Marconi: "To J. Watson Fraser, New York World and St. Louis Post-Dispatch correspondent, Halifax, N. S.: 'Beg to inform you that I have established wireless telegraphic communication between Cape Breton, Canada, and Cornwall, England, with complete success. 'Inauguration' messages, including one from the governor-general of Canada to King Edward VII, have already been transmitted and forwarded to Kings of England and Italy; also a message to the London Times, transmitted in the presence of my special correspondent, Dr. Parkin, of the G. MARCONI, 'Gloucester Bay, N. S., Dec. 22.'"

Special to the Post-Dispatch.
GLACE BAY, Nova Scotia, Dec. 22.—Sig. Marconi said to the correspondent of the Post-Dispatch today that he exchanged messages by the wireless system with two European monarchs Sunday morning; that the attempt to bridge the ocean had met with unqualified success.

The first announcement to the outside world made of the success of the test was through a dispatch to the bureau of the Post-Dispatch at Halifax, which was forwarded a few minutes after 2 p. m. News of the great happening was tabled in the great hall of the Post-Dispatch. Head was received at Glace Bay with deepest delight by the citizens to whom the modest young inventor has endeavored himself during his stay in this part of the globe.

His first dispatch of congratulation was sent to the King of England, and a reply, discussing with the Post-Dispatch correspondent his great achievement. Mr. Marconi said that the messages transmitted to Europe were private and that, therefore, he could not, of course, make them public. Their text, he said, would have to come from the wireless telegraph.

Several other messages were also sent, and appeared on the list of messages of the day. The number of messages that might have been sent, the inventor said, was limited by the capacity of the wire, to the number of messages that might have been sent.

The transmission and receipt of messages were continued until 1 p. m., behind locked doors and with the gate of the wall surrounding the telegraph tower guarded by sentinels.

Then, flushed with joy and excitement, which was shared by all who stood at his side during the memorable hours, the inventor left the station and made the announcement of his triumph.

He was warmly congratulated by his assistants and friends at the moment of his successful transmission of the initial dispatch to King Edward VII, at which moment he was smiling radiantly.

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"WITH THE GOTTS AND THE SHAMELESS HUN"

Kipling's Fierce Attack on the Anglo-German Alliance.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—In a poem that reflects the sentiment of the British nation, Rudyard Kipling fiercely attacks the Anglo-German alliance against Venezuela. It is entitled "The Rovers," and pictures the men-of-war-men grumbling at being compelled to do hands with such allies, who were the bitterest haters of the British during the South African war. The poem contains the following:

Last night ye swore our voyage was done,
But seaward still we go,
And ye tell us now of a secret vow
Ye have made with an open foe.

That we must lie off a lightless coast
And haul and back and veer
At the will of the breed that have wronged us most
For aye and aye and a year.

Having enumerated some of the enormities ascribed to the Germans, the poet continues:

The dead they mocked are scarcely cold,
Our wounds are bleeding yet,
And ye tell us now that our strength is sold
To help them press for a debt.

"Neath all the flags of all mankind
That fly upon the seas
Was there no other fleet to find
That ye strike hands with these?"

Of evil times that man could choose
On evil fate to fall
What brooding judgment let ye loose,
To pick the worst of all!

In sight of peace from the narrow seas,
O'er half the world to run,
With a cheated crew to leagues a-weigh
With the Gotts and the shameless Hun?

With a few privileged guests, called by telegraph to verify the experiments, gathered around the wireless instruments. The day was fine and bright, and it was evident, from later developments, that good weather prevailed all along the atmospheric pathway.

The wire at this end was attuned with that across the sea, a little more than 2200 miles away, and then the inventor began calling the Poldhu station.

The little assemblage waited in suspense for the result of the signal across the deep. Would it be heard on the other side, and if it was heard, would the station there be able to reply?

There was a pause of only a moment after the calling had ceased and Cornwall replied.

The inventor and the other watchers gazed in delight as they saw and heard the message move deliberately by the impulse from the English shore and set down upon the tape, in dots and dashes, a greeting of the day.

The inventor began to send the first message over the ocean. The speech of transmission was interrupted, the armature whirled and the sparking of the electricity into the air sounded like revolver shots.

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NEEDY SERVANT SACKED HOUSE

Margaret Roche Caused More
Loss Than a Fire.

SHE MADE A \$6000 HAUL

SILK DRESSES, DIAMONDS AND
TABLEWARE FOUND IN HER
ROOM.

She Was About to Leave for Portland,
Ore., but Says She Intended to
Restore Property
First.

IN DOMESTICS' PLUNDER BAG.
2 silk dresses made in Paris, \$1,000.00
2 silk dresses made in New York, 600.00
1 wedding gown, 150.00
1 velvet jacket, 75.00
1 fancy waist, lace, 75.00
5 silk waists, 225.00
1 ladies' belt, gold and silver, 50.00
8 pairs of silk hose, 12.00
15 silk handkerchiefs, 15.00
1 fan, gold watch in ivory handle, 100.00
1 ostrich plume, 100.00
1 lot jewelry, returned to owner, 1,000.00
1 silk rug, 100.00
8 card cases, opera glasses, silver, 100.00
brandy flask, cigar case, toilet articles, books, towels, underwear, bed clothing, dresses and fancy articles, not yet listed by the police, but estimated by Chief Diamond at, 2,500.00
Estimated total, \$5,947.00

Margaret Roche, who says that until a few months ago she was a school teacher, is in the Four Courts a prisoner on a grand larceny charge, and in Chief Diamond's treasure box is property recovered from the Roche woman's possession, which she admits having stolen, that is easily worth a small fortune.

This was stolen during the past six weeks from the home of Mrs. E. Molloy of 604 Cabanne avenue, where the woman was employed as a servant.

Margaret Roche was arrested in her room at Sixteenth and Chestnut streets Sunday night by Detective Lee Killian and the property was at once removed to the Four Courts. The Chief of Detectives Desmond the woman freely admitted her guilt and said that she had intended returning the stolen articles.

Not for many years past have wearing apparel and articles of so expensive a character been recovered by the St. Louis police, and Chief Diamond has instructed his men who handle the property to use the greatest care.

There are dresses that were made by Worth in Paris among the property that was stolen. Other dresses were made by the most fashionable modistes in this country.

FROM NURSE TO SERVANT.

Margaret Roche was employed as a nurse at a hospital, but was not strong enough for the work, and had attracted the attention of a friend of Miss Madge Barney, a sister of Mrs. Molloy. When Miss Barney recommended Mrs. Roche to Mrs. Molloy, that lady decided to employ her and gave her light household duties to perform. This was six weeks ago, and no suspicion that the school teacher servant was other than she represented was harbored until Detective Killian arrested her Sunday night and obtained her unqualified confession.

Mrs. Roche is a slight little woman, 27 years old, with gentle manners and an honest, appealing countenance. She is plainly clad, and appears to regret beyond measure that she allowed herself to commit acts that would cause her to be sent to jail.

"I took the things because I was driven to desperation," she said. "I am no criminal, and never before did I do a thing that would cause me to blush. I simply had nothing, and took the things because I needed them so."

"But I decided to return them all. I had fully made up my mind to that. I first took a little veil. Then I took other articles, and then I took them all. I had fully made up my mind to that. I first took a little veil. Then I took other articles, and then I took them all."

WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE CITY.

"I was penniless. But I wrote to my friends in the East and I got some money. I was going to Portland, Ore., and was going to resume school teaching. Before I went I was going to put together all of the articles I had taken and return them to Mrs. Molloy."

"Yesterday on two or three occasions I went to Mrs. Molloy's room, intending to tell her all. But I did not have the courage. She noted my strange actions and questioned me, but I merely replied that I had a headache."

The Roche woman said that she was born in Missouri, but went to New York, where she was educated. She became a teacher in the kindergarten there, and four years ago she became estranged from her family and went to Fort Smith, Ark., where she taught school. She says that she lost her health and came to St. Louis, where she could not obtain the kind of employment she had been accustomed to, and accepted work as a servant.

MRS. DOCKERY ILL.

Reception at Executive Mansion Has
Been Postponed.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Dec. 22.—Owing to the illness of Mrs. Dockery, the annual reception at the executive mansion, which was to have been given by the governor and Mrs. Dockery on New Year's night, has been postponed to some date in the future to be announced later.

The illness of Mrs. Dockery is said to be a result of a cold, which she caught while on a tour of the West, the first engagement to have been at Keokuk, Ia.

The illness of Mrs. Dockery is said to be a result of a cold, which she caught while on a tour of the West, the first engagement to have been at Keokuk, Ia.

This one-time school teacher became a housemaid and then stole \$6000 worth of property; she gives poverty as her reason.

TRAIN UNDER 10 FEET OF SNOW

FIFTY PASSENGERS BURIED THERE FOR 20 HOURS.

ALL FINALLY RESCUED

Remarkable Incident of Last Week's
Blizzard in Nebraska.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 22.—Fifty passengers on train No. 302 on the Burlington, running from Denver to Deadwood, were buried beneath 10 feet of snow for 20 hours. They were rescued last night, after 10 hours' work by a relief force sent from Sidney, Neb. The relief force number 50 persons.

The little town of Mercer, Neb., was the home of the snowbound travelers for the 20 hours. The place is only a cluster of about 10 houses and shanties and the train was obliged to remain beneath the snow until it could be secured from Sidney, 15 miles away.

The train was stuck in the snow for 20 hours. The passengers were buried under 10 feet of snow. They were rescued last night, after 10 hours' work by a relief force sent from Sidney, 15 miles away.

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ESTATE HINGES ON LOST PAPERS

Heirs of Samuel L. Hicks Are
Being Sought.

MILLION AND HALF INVOLVED
MRS. E. ENGEL OF ST. LOUIS IS A
RELATIVE.

Property amounting to \$1,500,000 awaits the heirs of Samuel L. Hicks, who died 14 years ago in Horine, Mo.

The fortune is the estate of his sister, Frances Augusta Hicks, who died eight years ago in Canada. At the time of her death an advertisement was published in several papers asking for information of Samuel L. Hicks or his heirs. The advertisement was forwarded by a St. Louis man to Miss Mamie Hicks, youngest daughter of Samuel L. Hicks, who is a stenographer in Denver.

Miss Hicks made an investigation and succeeded in finding her half-sister, whom she had never seen, in St. Louis. He told her the secret of his life. He spoke of his father in Canada and his home there, and showed her valuable papers which he had established his claim to the property after his death.

Mrs. Engel is the only heir to the property. Shortly before the death of S. L. Hicks his daughter, Frances, visited him. He told her the secret of his life. He spoke of his father in Canada and his home there, and showed her valuable papers which he had established his claim to the property after his death.

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NESBIT LAW

Republicans Appoint Committee to Form New One.

PROMINENT CITIZENS ON IT
MEMBERS HOPE THAT DEMOCRATS WILL JOIN THEM.

Chairman Finkelnburg Names Organization Provided for at the First Meeting Held to Repeal the Nesbit Bill.

Judge G. A. Finkelnburg, in accordance with a resolution passed last Friday evening at a meeting of Republican citizens, has appointed a committee of ten, non-partisan, to work toward securing an election statute to take the place of the present Nesbit law.

Judge Jacob Klein, Eugene McQuillan, Charles Parsons, George W. Parker, Cyrus P. Walbridge, John A. Gilliam, Selden P. Spencer, Wells H. Blodgett, Robert C. Day, George H. Shields.

The meeting was held in the Temple building and was attended by many representative citizens. A non-partisan committee was suggested by Chairman W. H. Blake, who expressed the opinion that election legislation should not have partisan bias.

A number of leading Democrats were suggested by Mr. Blake as available members of the committee.

Thinks Missing Brother Here.

Mary Rodins of San Francisco has asked the police to attempt to locate her brother Theodore, who has been missing since 1886. In letter inclosed for her brother with the one to Chief Kieley the woman said: "Brother Theodore: Something tells me that you are in St. Louis. I passed through last January, and my heart told me you were amongst the living yet. If so, let me know. I have lots of news to tell you. I inquired for you two years ago, but they could not find you. If you or your widow or children are alive let me hear from you as soon as possible."

DEATHS.

BERNARD—On Monday, Dec. 22, 1902, John Bernard, beloved husband of Sophia Bernard (nee Bismarck), after a lingering illness, aged 62 years.
Funeral Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 2 p. m., from residence, 2504 North Twenty-second street, to St. Lawrence's Church, thence to Calvary Cemetery. Relatives and friends are invited to attend.

BURKE—On Sunday, Dec. 21, 1902, at 12:30 p. m., John Burke, beloved husband of Alice Burke and father of Joseph, William and Mary Burke.
The funeral will take place from family residence, No. 3513 Thomas street, Tuesday, Dec. 23, at 9:30 a. m., to St. Bridget's Church, thence to Calvary Cemetery. Friends are invited to attend.

CULLEN—On Sunday, Dec. 21, 1902, at 10 o'clock a. m., John P. Cullen, beloved husband of Elizabeth Cullen (nee Moore).
Funeral will take place from family residence, 4425 Cottage avenue, on Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 9:30 a. m., to St. Vincent's Church, thence to Calvary Cemetery. Friends of the family are invited to attend.
The deceased was a member of the Visitation Council, No. 26, R. F. M.

DAWE—On Sunday, Dec. 21, 1902, at 7:20 a. m., Michael Dawe, aged 77 years.
The funeral will take place from his late residence, 1511 Cass avenue, rear, on Tuesday, Dec. 23, at 9:30 a. m., to St. Lawrence's Church, thence to Calvary Cemetery. Friends are invited to attend.

DONAVON—On Saturday, Dec. 20, at 11:45 p. m., James Donavon, 1125 North Thirteenth street, beloved father of James Donavon and Margaret Hunt (nee Donavon).
Funeral Tuesday, Dec. 23, at 9:30 a. m., Friends invited.

HART—On Sunday, Dec. 21, 1902, at 9 a. m., John P. Hart, aged 73 years, beloved brother of Mrs. Rose McCormack and Mrs. Mary Watson (nee Hart).
Funeral from the residence, 2942 Hickory street, on Tuesday, Dec. 23, at 8:30 a. m., to St. Kevin's Church, thence to Calvary Cemetery. Friends are invited to attend.

HAWTHORNE—On Sunday, Dec. 21, 1902, William Hawthorne, beloved son of Andrew and Ellen Hawthorne and brother of Peter Hawthorne, aged 38 years.
Funeral will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 23, at 10 o'clock a. m., from residence, 1229 Judle street, to St. Peter's Cemetery. Friends respectfully invited to attend.

KEHOE—On Monday, Dec. 22, at 12:30 a. m., Mary Kehoe, beloved wife of Peter Kehoe (nee Egan) and mother of John, Daniel, Peter, James, Thomas and Mollie Kehoe, and sister of Mrs. John Hogan, Sergt. Egan, Mrs. Daniel Bergen and the late Mrs. John Williams, at residence, 436 Easton avenue.
Due notice of funeral will be given.
(Chicago (Ill.) and Leavenworth (Kan.) papers please copy.)

LYNCH—On Monday, Dec. 22, 1902, at 1:10 a. m., Mary Lynch, widow of the late Cornelius S. Lynch, after a lingering illness, beloved mother of James J., Michael P., Cornelius S. (Jr.), John J., Mrs. Elizabeth Rafferty and Mrs. Nellie Mace.
Funeral from family residence, 3303 Caroline street, on Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 9 a. m., to St. Kevin's Church, Park and Cardinal avenues, thence to Calvary Cemetery. Friends invited to attend.

MEUK—Imag Meuk, beloved husband of Margaretha Meuk (nee Schlund), Sunday, Dec. 21, 1902, at his residence, 2010 De Kalb street, at the age of 73 years and 2 months.
Due notice of funeral will be given.

ROTH—On Sunday, Dec. 21, 1902, at 4 a. m., Margaretha Arnold, wife of the late Adam Roth, in her 90th year.
Funeral services from residence, 2201 Locust street, Tuesday, Dec. 23, at 11 a. m., Interment private. Please omit flowers.

RYAN—Entered into rest Saturday, Dec. 20, 2 p. m., Mary Ryan, beloved wife of Edward Ryan and dear mother of Edward J. and Mrs. John T. Ryan (nee Ryan) and Mrs. W. G. Straub (nee Ryan).
Funeral Tuesday, Dec. 23, at 9 a. m., from late residence, 4415 Elmwood avenue, to Holy Rosary Church, thence to Calvary Cemetery. Friends invited.

VOSELER—Entered into rest, on Sunday, Dec. 21, 1902, at 7 o'clock a. m., Christ H. Voseler, beloved husband of Josephine Voseler (nee Oberfoell) and dear father of Albert, Irene and Eugene Voseler, after a lingering illness, at the age of 41 years.
The funeral will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 23, at 2 o'clock p. m., from family residence, 2806 Garfield avenue, to Bethania Cemetery.

WACH—Johanna Wach, beloved wife of Jacob Wach, 1521 North Seventeenth street, at 10:55.
Due notice of funeral will be given.

DIVORCE IN THREE COURTS AT ONCE

LARGE CRIST OF LEGAL SEPARATIONS GROUND OUT.

25 DECREES IN MORNING

Judge Ferriss' Court Was Busiest, and Judges Talty and Wood Were Taxed.

Divorce proceedings were in progress in four divisions of the circuit court at one time Monday morning.

It was default day in Judge Ferriss' and Judge Talty's divisions, and in Judge Zachritz's and Judge Wood's divisions several postponed cases were heard. Twenty-five decrees were obtained in all.

Judge Ferriss granted the following decrees: Flora B. Hasty from Otis W. Hasty; plaints given care of child. Charles Kerner from Laura A. Kerner. Emma W. Belt from Horace P. Belt, alias Belt; plaints granted restoration of maiden name, Hughes.

Eliza Rathmann from Robert A. Rathmann; custody of child, Alice, given plaintiff. Jacob R. Kemp from Robert A. Rathmann; custody of child, Alice, given plaintiff. Charles W. Jenkins from Nancy J. Jenkins.

Florence Hatter from Frederick D. Hatter. Nellie Kershaw from James Kershaw. Margaret A. Morgan from William G. Morgan; plaints awarded custody of child. Lizzie Laube from Peter Laube; restoration of maiden name, Hellaue.

GRANTED BY JUDGE TALT. Edward L. Spahr from Carolina Spahr. Adella Meyer from Morris Meyer; plaints awarded \$1000 alimony in gross and custody of minor child, Allen.

John L. Koenig from Amanda L. Koenig. Geo. H. Clayburn from Willis V. Clayburn. Dolly Becker from Louis Becker; plaints given care of child.

Joseph Johnson from Josie Johnson. Martha Morris from Leroy M. Morris; custody of two children awarded the plaintiff. Pearl E. White, from Chris S. White. Frances Elizabeth Gavazana from Geo. Gavazana.

Emma Heyer from George Heyer; custody of child, George, given to mother. Ethel Houston from Herndon Houston. Anna Wood from Oscar Wood; alimony of \$1000 in gross awarded plaintiff. Sarah Kettler from Nikel Kettler.

JUDGE WOOD DID LESS. Judge Wood granted two divorces: Henry Luke from Sarah Luke. Dora Doehring from Gustav Doehring; custody of two children awarded mother. Judge Zachritz granted a divorce to Nellie Gettrust from Joseph F. Gettrust, on the grounds of desertion.

Shots Made Them Halt.—Five shots fired by Patrolman Tomasso caused John McLaughlin, said to be an ex-convict, and W. Egan of 1011 Collins street to give heed to the command of halt. Patrolman Tomasso says they were trying to enter the Burlington freighthouse at Main street and Orleans, but they saw him and they ran.

Janitor Was Found Dead.—George Battle, a janitor, 26 years of age, living at 2420 North Broadway, was found dead this morning at 5:30 o'clock by his roommate, Oscar Carter. Battle was a sufferer from heart disease and it is presumed this caused his death.

SLAYER MORTON HIS UNCLE DECLARES IS NOT SANE

Coroner's Jury Held Him Responsible for Barriger's Murder.

HELD TONGUE AT INQUEST

TOLD RELATIVE HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT HE DID.

Declared He Had Made Up His Mind to End Life and Went to Barriger's Office as Last Resort, but Did Not Intend to Kill Him.

Thompson Morton's brother, Rev. C. H. Morton, a Presbyterian minister of Sweet Springs, Mo., and his uncle, Judge W. M. Beckner of Winchester, Ky., a former congressman, attended the inquest at the coroner's office this morning into the death of John W. Barriger, Jr., which resulted in a verdict of homicide, the jury holding Morton responsible.

Morton listened attentively to the testimony of the other witnesses, but when asked by Deputy Coroner Boogher if he wished to make a statement, said there was no necessity for him to say anything. After the inquest Judge Beckner and Rev. Morton made an extended statement to the Post-Dispatch in which they declared that Thompson Morton has been unbalanced mentally for some time.

They stated that they would provide a legal defense to the murder charge against him and that the defense would be based on the grounds of mental irresponsibility. The family of Barriger or his father-in-law, Mr. Beck, was not represented at the inquest.

CONFERRED WITH MORTON.

Judge Beckner arrived in St. Louis Saturday night and immediately conferred with his imprisoned nephew. He asked him to make a complete statement of the deplorable tragedy, relating the taking to the Post-Dispatch, Judge Beckner said:

"Tom told me he had no reason in the world for killing Barriger. He said Barriger was the only man in St. Louis who seemed to take any interest in him, and was the last man in the world he had any right to harm."

"My nephew said he was unable to secure employment and had decided to kill himself. He said he went to Barriger's office in a final effort to secure employment before killing himself."

"He had bought the poison and intended to swallow it, he said, as soon as Barriger told him he could not help him."

"When he reached Mr. Barriger's office he asked him if he had a place open and

Mr. Barriger told him he had not. Barriger was pleasant about it, though, and told him not to be discouraged—that he would try to get him a situation with the Wabash.

"In relating what followed to me Tom said: 'I don't remember what followed. There was a rush and a roar in my head, my eyes became blinded, and I remember pulling my bow and stabbing "Jack" once.'

"I haven't any recollection of stabbing more than once."

"My nephew—Thompson McPheters Morton is his full name—told me several times that he had no reason for wanting to kill Barriger."

BARRIGER BEFRIENDED HIM. "Some time previous to the tragedy, he told me, Barriger had voluntarily loaned him \$10. Tom didn't want to take it at first, but Barriger said he probably needed it and on the latter's urging, Tom took it."

"That's about as much as he told me about the killing. It is a most deplorable tragedy. Our family is bowed in grief over it just like the family of the man he killed."

"We hadn't seen him for three years. He was always peculiar, erratic and morbidly sensitive boy. He was slightly deaf and he had a horror of being in the society of other people and being a bore to them."

THOUGHT HIM EMPLOYED.

"We heard little from him or about him the past few years, but we thought he had a railroad position. But we were always worried for fear he would get into trouble or do something desperate somewhere."

"We had once talked of placing him in a sanitarium, but he would not listen to that."

"About ten days ago his uncle by marriage, Dr. I. H. McKinley of Winchester, received a telegram from him asking for \$15 'quick.' That telegram worried his relatives, as they inferred from the 'quick' that all was not well with Tom."

"Dr. McKinley at once wrote to Rev. Mr. Morton, suggesting that steps be taken to place him in an asylum. Mr. Morton wrote back approving the suggestion."

"Last Friday I returned to my home in Winchester after an absence of several days and heard of the telegram. I also concurred in the idea of confining Tom."

The next morning we received a telegram from W. G. Lackey of St. Louis that 'Tom' had killed a man."

"I took the first train for St. Louis and wired his immediate family of the tragedy. Since I have seen him he has related all our efforts to cheer him or to aid him. He says he committed a crime and ought to hang for it. He said several times, 'I wish they'd hang me right away.' I wanted him to get a shave and offered to buy him some new clothing, but he said not to bother about it; that he would be hung in a short time and didn't need any new clothes."

"He had meningitis when young, and we trace his peculiarities to that time. In 1899 he went to South America to do engineering work on a railroad in Ecuador and since he returned he has acted more peculiarly than ever."

"For three years he has not been at his home in Winchester—that is at his mother's home. His mother comes of the noted Tallafiero family of Virginia. Her maiden name was Sarah Tallafiero."

"She passed through St. Louis several months ago en route to Sweet Springs."

Mo., to visit another son, Rev. C. H. Morton, and asked 'Tom' to call on her in St. Louis, but he didn't go near her.

"WHAT'S THAT?" When asked by Deputy Coroner Boogher if he wished to make a statement he arose to his full height—six feet two inches—and said: "What's that?"

Dr. Boogher repeated the question. Morton walked around to the head of the table, looked the coroner squarely in the eye with a stony stare and said:

"No, I have nothing to say."

"You do not wish to make any statement, then?" said Boogher.

"No, I don't see any necessity for making a statement," said Morton. He then resumed his seat and within ten minutes a verdict holding him for homicide was returned.

TO CURE A GOLD IN ONE DAY. Take Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets. This signature on every box. 2c

FAMILY SUDDENLY BEREAVED.

Mrs. Kate Sudbeck Died, Leaving Four Small Children.

Four small children were left motherless by the sudden death of Mrs. Kate Sudbeck, who was found dead in the second story in the rear of 23 Wash street last night. Mrs. Sudbeck was 42 years of age.

The cause of her death is believed to be heart disease. The children are being cared for by their grandmother, Mrs. Mary Tanager, of 1421 North Twelfth street.

Christmas Gifts.

Buy your umbrellas from the manufacturer and save money. Max Zapf, 501 Olive street.

COMMISSIONS WERE FORGED

Board of Election Commissioners Refused to Cash Begus Certificates.

John H. Vette, a financial agent who presented several judges' and clerks' commissions to the Board of Election Commissioners for payment, has been refused on the ground that the commissions were forgeries. Vette had purchased them at a discount.

The signatures were very poor imitations of those of Chairman McCaffery and Secretary Kuna, and the seal of the state was missing. The blanks themselves are dated 1901 instead of 1902, and it is the opinion of the election commissioners' office that the blanks were stolen from that office or from the establishment where they were printed. Judge Wood after the clerk had declined to cash the commissions and was referred to Chairman McCaffery.

JUDGE NAPTON STILL ILL.

St. Louis Lawyer Is in a Serious Condition at Marshall.

Advice from Marshall, Mo., are to the effect that Judge C. M. Napton, a prominent St. Louis lawyer, is no better and his condition is regarded as extremely grave. Nov. 10 Judge Napton was stricken with paralysis. He was then at the home of Mrs. J. Keck, 300 Washington avenue. He was taken to the residence of his brother, Judge William Napton, at Marshall, in the hopes that the change might benefit him. Arrangements are now being made to take him to Oregon. It is believed a change in climate is the only thing that might help him.

Sonnenfeld's

L. ACKERMAN, MANAGERS E. B. KLING
419-421-423-N. BROADWAY.

CLOSING OUT

All our Jewelry, Leather Goods, Silver Novelties and all kinds of Fancy Goods to make room for our ever-growing Millinery Business.

25c Brooches at10c
50c Brooches at25c
75c and 98c Brooches at50c
\$1.50 and \$1.75 Brooches at98c
Rings at less than cost.
Earrings at less than cost.
Chains and Lockets at less than cost.
Hats at less than cost.

35c and 25c Silver Novelties.....10c
35c and 25c Ebony Novelties.....10c
50c and 75c Silver Novelties.....35c
50c Leather Purse at25c
\$1.00 Leather Purse at98c
\$1.50 Leather Purse at98c
\$2.00 Leather Purse at\$1.25
75c and \$1.00 Belts at35c
75c and \$1.00 Garters at35c

Children's Caps

Finest all-wool Toques35c
75c Baby Caps at25c
Camel's Hair Tams, the very best in the market—Wednesday only83c

Feather Boas

Choice Coque Boas, white, black and white, \$2.50 and \$5.00
Ostrich Boas at all prices.
Chiffon Collarettes and Muffs.

Hat Department

Alaska Beavers, all colors.....\$1.19
Finest quality French Beavers, the \$3.00 and \$3.50 quality, at\$1.98

TUESDAY SPECIAL

DON'T MISS IT!
Every Hat in the House at 1/2 Price.

TOOL CHESTS

Our \$5.00 Chest

Can not be equalled. We have them up to \$25.00.

Schroeter Bros.,

809-811 N. Fourth St.

E. H. Lowe

This signature is on every box of the genuine Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets the remedy that cures a cold in one day.

We'll Please You, If You Want to Please Him!

We're certain to please you with our showing of the best that art and brains have accomplished up to now; everything in Fashionable Men's Wear is here first, and many exquisite ideas are exclusive with us.

Not higher priced, more often less than inferior qualities are sold for elsewhere; we present you the opportunity of securing gifts that reflect credit upon the wearer, and good taste and consideration from the donor.

Can show goods and prices to prove it.

Werner Bros.

Clothiers, Haberdashers and Hatters,
The Republic Bldg. On Olive St., at Seventh.

Scarf and Stock

WORTH WHILE ONES, TO LAST A LIFETIME.

BROADWAY AND LOCUST, S. E. CORNER.

Pedestals..... \$5.00	Music Cabinets..... \$7.50	Fine Curio Tables..... \$55.00
English Bedside Tables..... 15.00	Ladies' Desks..... 5.75	Bric-a-Brac Cabinets..... 20.00
Chiffonier Wardrobes..... 65.00	Turkish Chairs..... 28.00	Fan Cabinets, new idea..... 20.00
Gold Window Seats..... 15.00	Reception Chairs..... 10.00	Colonial Mirrors..... 40.00
Inlaid Music Cabinets..... 15.00	Dressing Tables..... 15.00	Decorated Parlor Chairs..... 10.00

AT ABOUT 1/2 PRICE LOT OAK ROCKERS AND DINING CHAIRS.

.. SELECT YOUR ..

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!

Soft and Stiff Hats, the most fashionable.....\$1.75 to \$5.00

SILK AND OPERA HATS.

Leather Hat Boxes and Suit Cases.....\$3.00 to \$25.00

Silk Umbrellas from.....\$1.75 to \$20.00

Sole Agents for KNOX WORLD-RENOWNED HATS.

AN ELEGANT HAT BRUSH FREE WITH EVERY HAT.

JOHN W. LOADE HAT CO.

113 North Broadway.

BAD MONEY GIVEN FOR BAKERY GOODS

ARREST OF BROTHERS-IN-LAW FOLLOWED.

SOURCE OF COIN SOUGHT

Theodore Kiski Caused Arrest of Garrett Theby, and Both Are Held.

Theodore Kiski and his brother-in-law, Garrett Theby, were arrested yesterday afternoon by Officers Gorman and Kuchlenberg on a charge of passing counterfeit money. They were held in the holdover until this morning, when federal warrants were issued against them on that charge. The men were placed in custody in the bakery of Mrs. Emma W. Belt, 205 South Broadway, at the instance of the proprietress. She said that they had previously passed counterfeit money on her and her daughter. The police department informed the United States authorities of the arrest, and the men will be transferred to the custody of the federal officers. They will be closely questioned regarding the origin of the money, and the secret service men will try to locate a plant. Kiski and Theby lived in a shanty at the foot of Nagel street, and as far as is known this is the first time they have been in the police toils.

There are others but the best is
GORHAM SILVER POLISH
Which cleans as well as polishes
All responsible jewelers keep it 25 cents a package

SILK UMBRELLAS
FOR

Xmas Gifts,
\$1.75 to \$40.



LADIES' Union Silk Umbrellas, steel rod, solid silver and pearl mounted handles, only \$2.25
MEN'S very finest Union Silk Umbrellas, plain and carved natural wood and solid silver mounted handles, choice \$3.00
SPECIAL lot of Ladies' Colored Silk Umbrellas, pure silk taffeta with tape edges, in green, reds and brown, with plain and silver-trimmed natural wood handles, exceptional values at \$4.50, \$6.00, \$7.00 and \$8.00.

WALKING STICKS AND CANES, every new effect, in every stylish wood, as low as \$1.15 and up to \$24.00.

MERMOD & JACCARD'S
Broadway and Locust.
Write for Catalogue. Mailed Free.

FIRE PROOF SAFES
For Home or Office Use.
A Suitable Holiday Present.
HALL'S SAFE AND LOCK CO.,
708 Washington Avenue.
HEKING-HALL-MARVIN SAFE CO.,
SUCCESSORS.

THIS BURGLAR BROUGHT A CAKE

Thrilling Midnight Experience Enriches the Murders by One Large Confection.

Mrs. Frank Mudrow of 517 Brady avenue, East St. Louis was awakened about midnight Sunday night by a noise. She awakened her husband. They heard noises in the kitchen. Mr. Mudrow obtained his pistol and made his way downstairs to the kitchen. As he opened the door into the kitchen a man jumped through a window which had been left open. Mr. Mudrow sent a couple of shots after him, but they did not seem to take effect. The burglar had obtained nothing in the Mudrow house, but on the porch was found a large Christmas cake, which he seemed to have stolen somewhere else. It was wrapped in paper, but the burglar had sampled it unobtrusively.

Christmas Bargains.
A lady's silver watch, \$1.95. Gold-filled watch, Elgin works, \$3.95. Boy's watch, 70c. Grimm & Gory, Jewelers, 16th and Cass av., opposite Hellrung & Grimm.

\$2000 REWARD IS OFFERED

Widow, State and County Will Pay That Sum for Conviction of Sylvester Murphy's Slayer.

Special to the Post-Dispatch.
HILLSBORO, Ill., Dec. 22.—A reward of \$2000 has been offered for the capture and conviction of the slayer of Sylvester Murphy, a wealthy farmer who resided near Litchfield, on the night of Sept. 1 last. Mrs. Virginia Murphy, the widow, will pay \$1700, the state \$200 and Montgomery County \$100. Murphy was shot as he lay on a couch in his parlor. No trace of the murderer was ever found. L. V. Hill, prosecuting attorney of Montgomery County, has sent the notices throughout the United States.

WEDDING SECRET 3 MONTHS

Mrs. Pearl E. White Secures Divorce From Man She Says Deserted Her.

Pearl E. White in making application to Judge Tully of division No. 7 for divorce declared she had never been so happy since her marriage as she had been when she was single and mother. She has been working as a stenographer, she said, until she met Clifford E. White, who persuaded her to marry him and to keep the secret from every one even her mother. They were wedded at Belleville Oct. 9, 1901. Until January, 1902, no one except themselves knew of their marriage. White at last consented to make their true relations public. She says he only lived with her a little while after that and that she did not know where he was. She was granted the divorce.

Xmas Cards and Calendars, 5c to \$10. MERMOD & JACCARD'S, BROADWAY AND LOCUST.

STEP TOWARD NEW CHARTER.

Tenth Ward Improvement Association Named a Conference Committee. The Tenth Ward Improvement Association, in session at Oregon avenue and Chipewake street, Sunday, appointed a committee, composed of Judge T. F. W. Zimmermann, H. C. Koenig, H. Belcher, D. Steinko and C. Brinkop, to act in conjunction with other public welfare organizations in an effort to elect a nonpartisan commission to make a new city charter.

Judge Zimmermann said that the commission should be composed partially of business men who know the needs of the city through actual experience.

Winter Wear and Tear

are prevented by timely Orangeine Powder, when dried, chilled or "upset."

Births Recorded.
The following births have been recorded since the last publication of the list in the Post-Dispatch:
A. and A. Zales, 2008 Edison; girl.
M. and M. O'Halloran, 2010 N. 18th; boy.
M. and E. Soudan, 1429 S. 10th; boy.
F. and M. Haller, 1941 S. 10th; girl.
W. and S. Hiltner, 2421 Oage; girl.
J. and V. Brelin, 2417 N. 18th; boy.
J. and C. Kington, 2033 La Salle; boy.
J. and E. Wordin, 2000 Howard; girl.
G. and B. Pusea, 321 Geyer; boy.
C. O. E. Curran, 1815 Coleman; boy.
T. and C. Raper, 1919 S. Broadway; girl.
W. and N. Hauken, 2147 S. 10th; boy.
W. and C. Ward, 1428 Benton; girl.
G. and C. Manning, 1610 N. 9th; girl.
W. and W. Hillman, 914 Benton; girl.
R. and R. Peter, 2406 S. 10th; girl.
O. and K. Wendt, 1433 Grant; girl.

Burial Permits.

The following burial permits have been issued since the last publication of the list in the Post-Dispatch:
Joseph Lohr, 68, 2017 Wash; pneumonia.
Fossie M. Greathouse, 1, 4710 Nebraska; meningitis.
A. Washington, 35, 16 N. Ewing; nephritis.
John K. Borgelt, 65, 2015 Bissell; gastritis.
Julia Vogt, 29, 3024 N. 22d; bronchitis.
Henry Lorenz, 27, 1067 S. 11th; pneumonia.
John Schmidt, 64, 4249 So. 10th; nephritis.
Frederick M. Schroeder, 71, 2018 Belmont; tuberculosis of liver.
Albert Meach, 67, 1430 Clinton; phthisis.
Ruth Mattson, 24, 1016 N. 18th; pathosis.
August Lehman, 11 days, 3841 Compton; pneumonia.
John W. Benson, 69, 2015 Bissell; apoplexy.
James Donovan, 30, 1225 N. 12th; gastritis.
Helen L. Spatter, 4, 2034 Rutger; pneumonia.
Rudie Simmons, 20, 1410 N. 9th; typhoid fever.

Opera Glasses for Xmas, \$3 to \$70.

Latest styles in leather, pearl and French enamel frames.
MERMOD & JACCARD'S, BROADWAY AND LOCUST.
Write for catalogue. 4000 engravings. Mailed free.

Found Dead in Bed.—Nicholas Johnson, 74 years old, 1718 Park avenue was found dead in bed last night. It is believed his death was due to senility.

TO MEET CATLIN COMPETITION

World's Fair Concession Department Is Actively Arranging for Exhibits.

While a private company has secured the Catlin tract, upon which will be constructed rival attractions to those of the World's Fair, the concession committee and Dis-

HOLIDAY SUGGESTIONS.
Mechanical and Steam Toys.
Handsome Silk Waist Patterns.
Musical Albums.
Musical Beer Steins.
Souvenir Cups and Saucers.
Wilton and Brussels Room Rugs.
Elegant Toilet Boxes.
Silk Velour Upright Piano Covers.
Fine All-Wool California Blankets.
Ladies' Fine Fur Jackets.
Marselles Bed Spreads.
Men's Elegant Neckwear.
Ladies' Fine Kid and Gilt Gloves.
Smyrna Hearth Rugs.
Ladies' Neckwear.
Sleds and Wagons—All Kinds.
Collar and Cuff Boxes.
Ingrain Room Rugs.
Men's Silk and Wool Mufflers.
Ladies' and Men's Silk Umbrellas.
Ladies' and Men's Holiday Slippers.
Men's Fancy Suspenders.
Leather Pocketbooks.
Ladies' Dressing Sacques.
French Sateen Bed Comforts.

BRIDE OF WEEK GETS DECREE

Mrs. Emma W. Belt Divorced From Dr. Horace Belt, With Whom She Eloped.

Mrs. Emma W. Belt, whose honeymoon lasted just one week, was given a divorce from Horace Belt and her maiden name of Hughes restored Monday morning. They eloped to Kansas (Key Dec. 24, 1897). After

BRIDE OF WEEK GETS DECREE

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Mrs. Emma W. Belt, whose honeymoon lasted just one week, was given a divorce from Horace Belt and her maiden name of Hughes restored Monday morning. They eloped to Kansas (Key Dec. 24, 1897). After

THEIR MARRIAGE THEY WENT TO LIVE AT THE COSTER HOTEL

At the end of a week the doctor deserted his bride. She came back to the home of her parents, 2131 Morgan street, and became a trained nurse.

After the show takes an oyster loaf home; St. Milford's, 207 N. Sixth street.

LIVERY MAN FOUND DEAD

Relatives Found Nicholas Johnson's Body at His Stable.

Nicholas Johnson was found dead at 1718 Clark avenue at 5 o'clock last evening. He was the proprietor of a livery stable at that number and had his residence adjoining. He was 74 years of age. Yesterday afternoon he complained of feeling tired and went to bed. When relatives went to call him they discovered he was dead.

THE GLOBE

the Place to Buy Christmas Presents For Rich and Poor Alike.

FREE—A FINE WATCH—FREE

With every Cash Purchase of Suit or Overcoat at \$9.75 and above, Tuesday and Wednesday ONLY.



By a lucky chance we succeeded in obtaining 1000 handsome Stem-Wind Watches, each and every one guaranteed to keep perfect time, which we will give away absolutely FREE as long as they last. This is the grandest gift ever offered free by any store.

Globe
SEVENTH AND FRANKLIN AVENUE



STARR PIANOS
FOR XMAS
Make fine presents for your entire family.
Thoroughly first-class in every particular, and with a tone that rings out full, clear, round and sweet. The price is low because we manufacture and sell direct. The terms are easy because we have ample capital to carry your notes. The CECLIAN will play your old piano if you are not able to play it yourself.

SEE THEM NOW.
REPRESENTED EXCLUSIVELY BY THE
Jesse French Piano & Organ Co.
1114 OLIVE.

Swell Xmas Jewelry
A. Kurtzeborn & Sons,
310 North Sixth Street.

Waltham Watches.
"Be ruled by time, the wisest counsellor of all."
"The Perfected American Watch," an illustrated book of interesting information about watches, will be sent free upon request.
American Waltham Watch Company, Waltham, Mass.

Ingalls Sells Waltham
WATCHES AND SOLID GOLD JEWELRY AND DIAMONDS FOR CASH OR EASY TERMS. EST. 21 YEARS. 1223 OLIVE ST.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS.
Tax bills for 1902 will have to be paid on or before the 31st inst. The heavy penalties provided by law on delinquent taxes will be enforced after Jan. 1, 1903. Payment now will save time and inconvenience to taxpayers.
L. F. HAMMER, JR.,
COLLECTOR OF THE REVENUE.
St. Louis, Dec. 9, 1902.

RUPTURE
Positively and permanently cured. 700 patients cured. Send for booklet. Hours 10-6; Sundays, 10-1. Residence 4413 Morgan st., 6:30-7:30. W.A. Wain, M.D., 604 Washington av., St. Louis.
VIM VIGOR VITALITY FOR MEN
Mormon Bishop's Pills have been in use over 15 years by the leaders of the Mormon Church and their families. They cure the worst cases in old and young arising from excess of self-abuse, debility, nervousness, or excessive smoking. Cures Lost Manhood, Impotency, Lost Power, Night-Losses, Spermatorrhea, Incontinence, Pain in Back, Evil Desires, Seminal Emissions, Lame Back, Nervous Debility, Headache, Unfitness to Marry, Loss of Semens, Varicose Veins, Dropsy, Constipation, Stops Premature Ejaculation, Stops Nervousness, Stops Indigestion, Stops Sleeplessness, Stops Headaches, Stops Stomach Troubles, Stops All Disorders of the Urinary System, Stops All Disorders of the Blood, Stops All Disorders of the Skin, Stops All Disorders of the Lungs, Stops All Disorders of the Heart, Stops All Disorders of the Liver, Stops All Disorders of the Spleen, Stops All Disorders of the Pancreas, Stops All Disorders of the Gallbladder, Stops All Disorders of the Kidneys, Stops All Disorders of the Bladder, Stops All Disorders of the Uterus, Stops All Disorders of the Vagina, Stops All Disorders of the Cervix, Stops All Disorders of the Vagina, Stops All Disorders of the Cervix, Stops All Disorders of the Vagina, Stops All Disorders of the Cervix.

Do You Know the Power of Hemoline?
It Will Cure Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Lumbago, Sciatica, Pleurisy, La Grippe, Mumps, Pains, Stiff and Sore Joints.
By external application, Hemoline is an excellent remedy for the cure of rheumatism and kindred ills. I am well acquainted with its merits, and have often indicated it to my friends to use it, with the result it never failed to give entire satisfaction. Yours truly, D. I. BUSHNELL, 108 N. 2d st.
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D. I. Bush

OYSTERS SCARCE THIS SEASON

St. Louis Dealers Say There Are Few of the Desirable Shipped Here.

St. Louis oyster dealers say there is an unusual scarcity of oysters this year. There are no large Rockaways shipped here this season, they say, and no Blue Points of the most desirable kind. The oysters that have arrived in limited supply are smaller than in other years.

And these oysters cost more than those of former holiday seasons, though the increase on the retail price is not large. For years, the dealers say, the fixed price

has been 20 cents per quart for standards and 30 cents a quart for select retail. Forty cents per quart is now the retail price for standards, and while the select are still selling for 50 there may be an advance before Christmas.

There was an advance of 10 cents per gallon in the wholesale price of standards last week, going from \$1.30 to \$1.40.

Impoverished oyster beds and greater demand for oysters are the only reasons given by the local dealers for the decreased supply.

For Benefit of Mt. Calvary Church.
Christmas sale of French candles at popular prices, at 513 Olive street (old Post-Dispatch building), Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before Xmas.

CAT RIFLE COST LIBERTY.

Julius Wild, Aged 12, Sorry He Bought His Own Christmas Present.
"Merry Christmas" is a mockery to Julius Wild, 12 years old, who is in jail pending the payment of a \$50 fine. He wishes now he had not nearly run his legs off doing errands to get money to purchase a cat rifle for Christmas.

Six dollars were accumulated by him after laborious toil, and he invested them in a cat rifle and fifty cartridges. Last evening he was making things more than in the way of the "sparrows" in the vicinity of his home, 3726 Florissant avenue, and incidentally he was putting in jeopardy the eyes of those who passed that way. A policeman arrested him.

This morning he told Judge Tracy he wanted to have a good time with his Christmas money, but he was fined \$50, which he could not pay.

CONTRACTOR DEAD, POISON SUSPECTED

Patrick Benson's Sudden Demise to Be Investigated.

AWAY FROM HOME FIVE DAYS

AFTER HIS RETURN HE BECAME VIOLENTLY ILL.

Acquaintance Thus Far Seen Say He Was Seen in Saloons and Elsewhere, but Do Not Explain His Taking Off.

Patrick J. Benson, a contractor and plasterer, died at 4 o'clock this morning after an illness of a few hours. The symptoms accompanying his illness were so unusual as to arouse the suspicion of his son Joseph, with whom he lived at 3723 Evans avenue, and an investigation was immediately inaugurated.

Benson was about 52 years old, and was reported very well-to-do. He left his home Tuesday before last and was not seen by any of his relatives from that time until last night, when he returned home about 10 o'clock. A short while afterward groans were heard emanating from his room.

When members of his family went to his assistance the old man was suffering from violent vomiting spells, which continued for hours. However, the son did not consider the sickness of sufficient gravity to call a physician until 4 o'clock this morning, when Benson was seized with another paroxysm.

Young Benson then hastened for a doctor, but when he returned with Dr. R. A. Vaughan of 3909 Page avenue his father was dead. He was dead when Joseph Benson left the house, but the physician stated as his opinion, from the reports given him by members of the family, that the old man died with every symptom of poisoning. Joseph immediately sought Night Chief of Police Gillaspay and told him his suspicions.

When Benson left home two weeks ago, Joseph said, he had a sum of money, two gold rings and a gold watch and chain. When he returned all of these were gone. His fingers were stripped of their adornments and his timepiece was missing. Joseph declared that he was positive his father was "dooped" during a period of hard drinking, and had then been robbed.

SPENT MONEY FREELY.

Detective John McCreath found Lizzie Brennan, with whom Benson is said to have been well acquainted, at 805 North Fifteenth street, but she declared that she had not seen the old man for a week and was expecting him to call today. She is addicted to the use of morphine, and says that Benson has spent a large sum of money with a Morgan street physician in the effort to break her of the habit.

Benson was seen in a number of places during his absence from home. At each place, all of them were barrooms, he is said to have been drinking very heavily. Last Friday he borrowed \$5 from a friend on Twelfth street and Washington avenue, and the police incline to the belief that the old man had squandered what money he had when he left home and borrowed money on his valuables. His bank-book cannot be found and it is said that he had a snug sum deposited with a trust company.

Benson was last seen by his acquaintances on Saturday night in Theo Hemmelman's saloon at Fifteenth and Morgan streets, where he is said to have imbibed heavily. When he returned home last night, his son says, it was evident that he had been drinking. No inquiries were made regarding his absence, however.

Joseph Benson says he will push the investigation to the end, and he expects a post-mortem examination to be held today to determine whether or not the father came to his death through the instrumentality of poison.

Benson's other son, George, who is a bartender at the Standard Theater, told the police that his father had suffered from heart trouble, and he believed this was the cause of death.

There was a rumor that Benson had drawn \$2000 from a bank while he was away from home, but this could not be corroborated, as his bank book is missing. He was well known to the building trades and was also somewhat active in politics.

CHRISTMAS BEGINS EARLY.

Sunday School Entertainments Commence Monday Night.

The Third Baptist Church will give its Christmas entertainments tonight. St. James Catholic parish school will also entertain its children at the same time.

Tuesday night the Second Presbyterian Church and the young people of the Grand Avenue Baptist Church will hold celebrations.

Wednesday evening Santa Claus will visit the Raymond Avenue Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and Wednesday morning he will call on the kindergarten children at Christ Church Cathedral. The Maple Avenue Reformed Church will celebrate Christmas night.

Among the several entertainments for Friday evening is a tree at the Immanuel Baptist Church, a program of Christmas exercises at the Pope Avenue Presbyterian chapel, and another, with Santa Claus present, at the Presbyterian Church of Clifton Heights, besides the giving of gifts at the Lindell Avenue Christian (Nonsectarian) Church. Forty pupils of this school will receive prizes for faithfulness. On Saturday morning the good saint will come with gifts to the children of the guild of St. Ethelberta at Christ Church Cathedral.

A Rapid Pace.

Fast trains, fast horses and fast autos—in fact, all the rapid transit conveniences of our modern civilization, have a close second in the rapid pace of the P.-D. Want records. Imagine a gain of 200 horse and vehicle wants over a year ago—that was the November increase, placing the total horse and vehicle wants at 946—or just 54 less than 1000.

RUSSIANS HONOR GEN. MILES.

Entertained Distinguished Soldier While He Was at Fort Arthur. FORT ARTHUR, Dec. 22.—The Russian officials at Fort Arthur entertained Lieutenant-General Miles on his arrival there and are now sending him to Taku on board a cruiser.

"BARNEY" DID ASKING HERE

The tin wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. George Edward Deeds, 2123 Eads avenue, which was celebrated Saturday evening, was chiefly characterized by the deeds of Barney Frauenthal, superintendent of the bureau of information at Union Station.

The Deeds' home was decorated with sprigs of cedar, intertwined with tin rope and tin trimmings. The couple in whose honor the event was given was presented with a tin loving cup, which took the combined strength of three men to bear it. A floral tribute wrapped in tin foil was the gift of the Black Cat Club to Mrs. Deeds, their former president.

All over the house were tacked up large posters containing amusing legends relative to the marriage of the beautiful pair, and a mammoth one on which was printed the alleged parental forgiveness.

But Barney Frauenthal, from the time he made his unheralded entry, clad in the complete panoply of a tin soldier, monopolized the center of the calcium glow. His doing strange, superstitious things from a tin book. His interrogatories convulsed the merry gathering.

Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Stocker, Miss Jessie Billio, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Benecke, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Urquhart, Mr. and Mrs. L. Punskey, Mr. and Mrs. John M. Hertel, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Geller, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Denk, Mr. and Mrs. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. John Maber, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Frauenthal, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mathews, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Fling, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Neal, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Lodington and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Gilbert.

MULE BUYER DIED AT HOTEL

George Wright Was Large Purchaser for Boer War.
George Wright, 51 years old, purchasing agent for the New York Livestock Co., died at 10:30 o'clock last evening at the Lindell Hotel. He had been ill since last Tuesday. Dr. Charles Anderson attended him. Wright was one of the best-known mule buyers in the United States. Samuel Cohen said that during the Boer war Wright was the purchaser of more mules than any other man in this country. His business here at this time was to arrange for a large shipment of mules to the West Indies.

Oysters and clams, a regular restaurant for all, open day and night. Popular prices. Milford's, 207 North Sixth street.

OPEN TILL 10:30 P. M. UNTIL CHRISTMAS.

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ANYTHING?

IS YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST COMPLETE, or have you postponed making your selections until now? If so, let us again remind you that there is no gift so appropriate, so highly appreciated and of such lasting value as an Accurate Watch, a Beautiful Diamond, or some similar article of real intrinsic worth.

WE have always prided ourselves on the High Quality of our goods and on our reputation for good taste and strict integrity. You will find everything purchased of us to be exactly as represented, and worth absolutely the price asked.

WE are pleased to announce that our stock has been fully replenished, and that, during the three buying days left before Xmas, it will be complete, varied and artistic.

HESS & CULBERTSON, CORNER Sixth and Locust Sts.

WALKER'S PLAN

HOLIDAY SALE



Golden Oak Center Table, 18 inch top.....\$3.36
Handsome Brass-Parlor Table, any finish.....\$1.20
Yermis Martin and Onyx Tables.....\$3.70



One of the best Xmas presents—a nice Morris Chair at a small price.....\$5.40
A full line of gift Parlor Chairs, in fancy designs and silk upholstered seats.....\$5.00



Always appreciated—a nice Easy Rocker; we can furnish you with a good leather seat.....\$1.85
Nothing pleases a child better and at same time does not wear out in a short time than a nice will.....\$1.40



Mahogany Music Cabinets, piano polish finish, large and roomy.....\$6.75
For an elegant Christmas present—a handsome Parlor Cabinet, French plate mirror back—just fill the bill.....\$9.20



Combination Desk and Bookcase, adjustable shelves, French plate glass, regular price \$12.....\$7.55
An elegant Ladies' Desk, golden oak ornamental, any finish.....\$4.40



Handsome decorated Parlor Lamp—like cut—\$1.60
8-piece decorated gold-band Dinner Sets—one of the very best Christmas presents—\$4.65

Our Space is too Small to Show Cuts of All Our Bargains. Come in and See What You Don't Find Here.

6-hole Quick Meal or Superior Range on your own terms.....\$35.00
Air-tight Heaters, fancy nickel trimmings; if they don't keep fire your money refunded.....\$12.60
Large size No. 8 Cook Stoves, 17-inch oven, nickel oven door.....\$9.40
Security Oil Heaters, clean, safe and economical.....\$4.40
Golden Oak Hall Tree, French plate glass.....\$6.88

An elegant tufted top Couch, fringed all around, an ornament for any parlor.....\$5.52
3-piece Parlor Suits, upholstered in silk Damask.....\$10.60
Bed Couches, in all the latest colorings of velours, removable mattress and woven wire spring.....\$11.50

Golden Oak Sideboard, French plate glass, nicely carved.....\$9.60
Oak Extension Tables, 6 feet long, pillar legs.....\$5.80
Cane-seat, Brace-arm Chairs.....78c
Kitchen Cabinet, two large drawers, two bins and bread board.....\$3.70

Carpets and Rugs

Brussels Carpets, per yard, 46c
Brussels Room Rugs, size 9x12, \$10.30
Lace Curtains, 3 1/2 yards long, extra wide, per pair, 95c

OPEN MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY UNTIL 9 P. M.

Walker's
206 N. TWELFTH ST. 208
JUST SOUTH OF OLIVE ST.

PAY AS YOU CAN

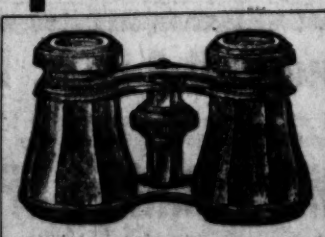
SENSIBLE XMAS GIFTS!

Misses' Mackintoshes, Boys' Mackintoshes, Children's Rubber Shoes, Fancy Toilet Sets, Rubber and Leather Footballs, Rubber Dolls and Animals, Ladies' Rubber Gloves, Cravenette Rain Coats, Hatching Bags, Etc., Etc.

Your inclination prompts a making of useful and appropriate Christmas Gifts, call on us.

RUBBER CO.
N. 4th St.

...OPERA GLASSES...



We have made some extraordinary reductions on high-grade Glasses. See them in our windows. Our stock of Lemaire Glasses is enormous. They range in price from

\$5 to \$35

All Opera Glasses bought of us are guaranteed and will cheerfully be exchanged after the holidays if desired.

ERKER'S 608 OLIVE
OPEN TILL 9 P. M.

Open Tonight Until 9:30.



Open Tuesday and Wednesday Nights.

Holiday Goods Reduced

DURING the next two days we must dispose of many thousands of dollars' worth of merchandise bought expressly for the holiday trade. Our method is never to "carry over" goods. We have adopted the usual mercantile remedy "the price knife" and have applied it very liberally. In many cases the reductions are as great as one-half. The goods that have suffered the greatest price cuts are Toys, Dolls, Fancy Goods, Jewelry, Toilet Articles, Fancy Boxes of all sorts, etc., etc.

All the sample dolls are offered at a discount of 25 per cent.

All the large and expensive toys at \$2.50 and upward, such as horse and wagons, carts with hair horses, stores, meat markets, houses, etc., etc.—have been reduced 25 per cent.

The next two days will witness tremendous selling and you will be able to secure many wonderful bargains.

Concerning Deliveries Before Xmas.

Goods bought as late as 2 p. m. Wednesday will be delivered to Kirkwood and vicinity. Goods bought as late as 3 p. m. Wednesday will be delivered to East St. Louis, Maplewood, Tower Grove and vicinity. Goods bought as late as 4 p. m. Wednesday will be delivered anywhere within the city limits. Goods bought as late as 5 p. m. Wednesday will be delivered as far west as Union avenue, as far north as 5000 or Prairie avenue, and 4000 south, or Osage street.

We request that you take small packages with you to avoid possible delay, as in the rush the smaller parcels are more likely to be misplaced.

OUR LARGE ASSORTMENT CLOCKS FOR XMAS COMPRISES

SMALL GOLD CLOCKS From \$1.50 to \$45.00
TRAVELING CLOCKS From \$2.25 to \$100.00
FRENCH CLOCKS, IN CHINA, BRONZE, MARBLE, ONYX, GOLD AND WOOD CASES, From \$18.00 to \$35.00
8-DAY MANTEL CLOCKS From \$4.75 to \$16.50
PORCELAIN From \$6.00 to \$300.00
BRONZE From \$12.50 to \$150.00
GOLD From \$17.00 to \$150.00
CLOCK SETS (Clock and 2 Candelabra) \$12.50 to \$350.00
HALL CLOCKS, \$49.00 to \$750.00



MERMOD & JACCARD'S
Broadway Cor. Locust St.
Write for Catalogue, 4000 engravings. Mailed free. Open Evenings Until 9:30.

An Automobile Free



With every pair of Children's Shoes, 71 runs by itself and looks like a grown-up rubber-tired auto, has steering gear, so will run where you want it to. This special inducement is to convince parents of the exceptional shoe value received from us. If you buy once you'll come again.

Baker-Bayles Shoe Co.,
509 N. 6th St.

...HOLIDAY BARGAIN...

RATES VIA C. & ST. L. RY.
JERSEY CITY AND RETURN.....\$1.80
SPRINGFIELD AND RETURN.....\$2.00
BOSTON AND RETURN.....\$2.40
PEORIA AND RETURN.....\$2.40
PEORIA AND RETURN.....\$2.40
Peoria limit Jan. 2.
Free Bedding Chair Cars between St. Louis and Peoria.
206 North Fourth St. Tel. Main 2643.

HOTELS.

There is no argument necessary. This matter is simply submitted in the way of information.

THE NEW ST. JAMES HOTEL
Has been substantially refitted and every modern and appropriate convenience has been added to make it first-class, moderate-priced hotel. We offer the traveler every possible comfort. The rates are American, \$2.00 a day and up. European, \$1.00 a day and up. We serve a 60c European dinner which you ought to try. Tickets at office. Broadway and Walnut is our location in St. Louis. Take Market st. cars to and from Union Station. P. 8104T.
Proprietor and Manager.

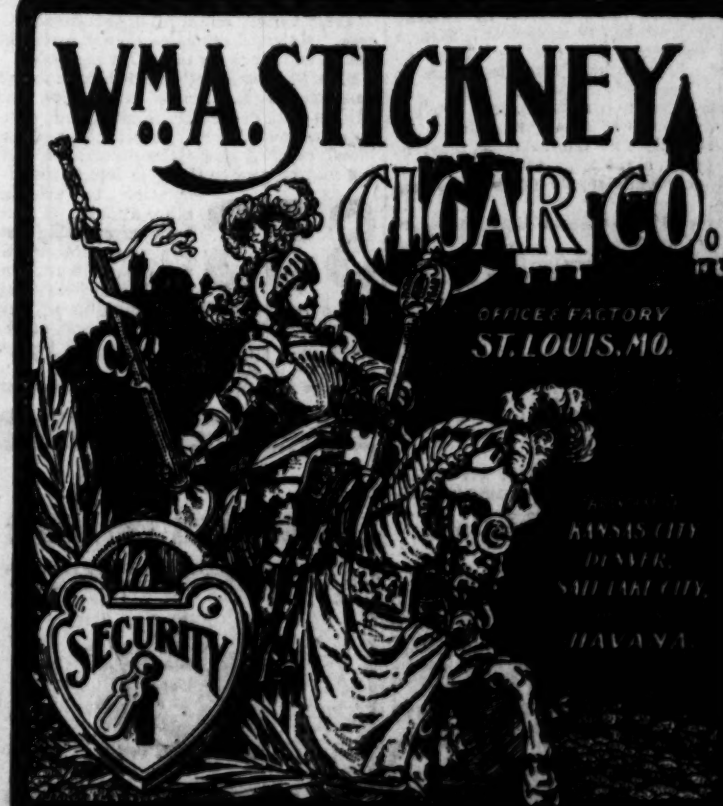
WINTER RESORTS.

HOT SPRINGS, ARK.
The **Park Hotel**, HIGH CLASS.
FINEST CAFE WEST OF NEW YORK.
\$6.00 IN EXCESS IMPROVEMENTS.
Open Jan. 2nd to May 15th. J. R. HAYES
Under New Management. U. A. BEATTY, Manager.

DENTISTS.

BOSTON STEAM DENTAL ROOMS.
415 E. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.
SPECIALTY—PAINLESS EXTRACTION, CROWN, BRIDGE, PARTIALS, REMOVABLES, ETC.
Dr. J. H. Case, Prop. Open every 1017 E. Broadway to L.

Find Best Domestic Male and Female Help
Through P.-D. Wants.
Read by Everybody.
All Brought.



Our popular brands of cigars specially packed in attractive holiday boxes without extra charge. Your dealer will supply you.

SCROLL SAWS From \$2.50 and Up
—AT—
Schroeter Bros.,
809-811 N. Fourth St.

This signature is on every box of the genuine
Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets
The remedy that cures a cold in one day.

